



K2 KOMMAND

Sept. 10

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Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan

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Senior Airman Matthew Rosine

Col. Bill Bradley, right, accepts the 416th Air Expeditionary Group guidon from Col. Brad Pray, 376th Air Expeditionary Wing commander during the group's change of command ceremony, Saturday.

Bradley assumes command

**By Senior Airman
Matthew Rosine**
*416th Air Expeditionary
Group Public Affairs*

The 416th Air Expeditionary Group held a change of command ceremony Saturday.

Col. William Bradley assumed command from the Col. Mark Sime.

"We have a great team here," Colonel Bradley said. "My priorities are to continue to support the Global War on Terrorism, send all of our

people home safely and continue to improve our living conditions."

During the change of command ceremony, the 416th AEG also met its new group superintendent, Chief Master Sgt. Chuck Nail.

Prior to assuming command of the 416th AEG, Colonel Bradley was the Chief of Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Division, Directorate of Operations, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.



Col. Bradley

Chief Nail was the 4th Equipment Maintenance Squadron superintendent for the 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.

AEF rotations - the changing of the guard

By Col. Bradley Pray
376th Air Expeditionary Wing
commander

Men and women of the 416th Air Expeditionary Group, you've done an amazing job during the Air Expeditionary Force 9/10 deployment, and more amazing to me, it's already time for the AEF 1/2 folks to take the reins.

At our normal home station units, we gradually PCS folks in and out, but AEF rotations force massive change in just a few weeks. The teams we have formed must now be rebuilt. As we move forward with the mission over the next few weeks, I ask everyone to maintain focus and not become complacent.

I've been very impressed with the work you've accomplished and even more proud of the cooperative spirit and attitude I've seen demonstrated with your unit.

The support you've given transitioning forces has been fantastic. The 100 percent vehicle maintenance capability for two months, the number of flying sorties flown, construction projects completed, the amount of fuel pumped, cargo and passengers moved, meals served, patients treated, base events and fitness opportunities -- I can go on and on. Especially impressive has been the integration of units into the 416th AEG. Col. Sime did a great job, and I appreciate the support you're

"I've been very impressed with the work you've accomplished and even more proud of the cooperative spirit and attitude I've seen demonstrated with your unit."



By Col. Bradley Pray
376th Air Expeditionary Wing
commander

giving Col. Bradley as we work out the details of the 416th re-organizing under the 376th Air Expeditionary wing at Manas Air Base.

You've helped lay the groundwork for Karshi-Khanabad Air Base's future building program -- particularly the increased ramp area which is vital to base operations. You've left the base much better for those Airmen who will follow you.

When you head home, remember you did a tremendous job, and our nation and our coalition forces

value the work you accomplished here.

You have established a high standard at K2. I expect everyone to continue following the rules and maintain the standard established with the Army at your installation.

To those in AEF 9/10, thanks again for all your hard work and accomplishments. Well done!

For those just arriving for AEF 1/2, welcome to K2. I look forward to working with you for the next four months.



Editorial Staff

Col. Bill Bradley

416th Air Expeditionary Group commander

Senior Airman

Matthew Rosine

Chief, Public Affairs



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From HAS-sle to castle

41st EECS 'cleans house' to build new home

By Senior Airman
Matthew Rosine

416th Air Expeditionary Group
Public Affairs

Stepping out of the swelling heat into the cool shadows of hardened aircraft shelter 21, many visitors might notice the new coats of paint on the walls or the freshly swept floors and the spacious room.

But, the former Soviet-era HAS wasn't always so fresh, clean and inviting. Formerly used as a storage/depot area, the overly unused, cobwebbed HAS sat in a deteriorating state for some time.

But after days of elbow grease and determination, the men and women of the 41st Expeditionary Electronic Combat Squadron are turning the former storage area into a new home.

"Two weeks ago we were told that this was a possibility," said Tech. Sgt. Matthew Vera, 41st EECS hydraulics technician and expeditor. "We were so excited that we crossed our fingers and started the project anyway."

To begin the "home improvement" project, the maintainers had to clean the HAS and make it serviceable. This project involved the destruction of makeshift shelving and partitions



Senior Airman Matthew Rosine Tech. Sgt. Gary Piatkowski, right, and Tech. Sgt. Matthew Vera prepare to put a finishing touch on hardened aircraft shelter 21, their new home.

and removing truckloads of waste, dirt and lumber. Much of the materials were salvaged and re-used becoming new walls, new flooring, shelves and creative

Special thanks on the HAS project goes to:

Team leaders:

Tech. Sgt. Gary Piatkowski
Tech. Sgt. Matthew Vera

Team members:

SrA Ryan Beckwith
SSgt William Enos
Staff Sgt. Lee Fortner
A1C Matthew Fredette
Staff Sgt. Vince Juarez
Staff Sgt. Phillip Kaiser
Staff Sgt. Edmund Keillor
A1C Caleb Launtz
A1C Kyle Malinowski
SrA Justin Malloy
SrA Aaron Overstreet
SrA Blake Plouff
SrA Nate Smith

The 41st EECS would also like to thank Lt. Col. Buck Elton and Chief Master Sgt. Johnny Lamb of AFSOD for repositioning their storage -- paving the way for the 41 EECS to accept the HAS and to John Powell of KBR for his assistance.

squadron signs for the HAS.

Before painting could begin, hours of pressure washing, cleaning and preparation had to be done.

Painting the newly constructed bare concrete office areas in the back part of the HAS, plywood walls and doors, and rusting blast doors was the next major task completed. The squadron has now developed plans to build an office structure inside the HAS with two separate offices and a study/break room. The squadron is also looking into moving the Life Support flight into the HAS as well as establishing semi-permanent maintenance work areas with adequate lighting and power, and a supply shop and storage area.



Courtesy photos

Before renovation began, left, the area was deteriorating and used only for storage. Today the shelter, right, is the new home of the 41st EECS.

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Schofield MPs help launch Afghan quick reaction force

By Sgt. 1st Class Darren D. Heusel
105th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan -- Afghan citizens want added security leading up to the Oct. 9 presidential elections and that's exactly what the Afghan National Police, backed by the U.S.-led coalition and the International Security Assistance Force, intends to provide with the emergence of a new Rapid Action Division.

The RAD is the Afghan equivalent of a quick reaction force. U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld made mention of the group's potential during a recent visit, saying that it is vital to the security and stability of the region.

"This RAD is going to be a very important organization because they're going to respond to serious election-related contingencies," said Col. Jon Lopey, chief of the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan and Civil Military Operations Law Enforcement Cell.

"I've been very impressed with the enthusiasm and professionalism of our Afghan police counterparts," Lopey added. "Police development is so important throughout the nation and what we do now is going to help shape the police force for years to come."

Training for the division is conducted by three-man Police Technical Assistance Teams from the Parwan and Jalalabad Provincial Reconstruction Teams and includes modern police tactics in the areas of riot control, convoy security, dignitary protection and more. These PTATs are assigned to Combined Joint Task Force 76's Task Force Thunder.

"It's been very interesting working with the local police," said Staff Sgt. Damian George, a member of the 58th Military Police Company tasked with training the division. "I'm very confident the Afghan police will be able to take the skills we've given them and put them to good use."

Pfc. Joseph Workman, another member of the 58th MP Co., "I think the training is very important for the role that these police officers are go-



Army Sgt. 1st Class Darren D. Heusel
Staff Sgt. Damian George of the 58th Military Police Company demonstrates to Afghan National Police the proper way to handcuff a suspect as part of a training exercise in the use of modern police tactics.

ing to play in the future. They're definitely going to add to the stability."

The RAD security plan is to deploy 100-man security contingents to Jalalabad, Logar, Gardez, Laghman, Khost, Surobi and Kabul in direct support of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for the elections.

The new force currently stands at 800 members, but the division expects to field another 400 officers when they graduate from the Kabul Police Academy in early September.

"These police officers recognize the importance of their mission and I'm confident that with the training they've received they will be able to provide much needed security for the upcoming elections and beyond," said New Zealand Army Maj. Bede Fahey, who was sent to Afghanistan to assist the PTATs and oversee the RAD training.

Gen. Mahboob Amiri, ANP commander, said the training has been "very effective and very practical" and that he'd like to see the training continue well into the future.

"We plan to take the new police force and send them to other areas of the country to provide security for all the people of Afghanistan," Amiri said.

The RAD was recently thrust into action ahead of the elections when they were deployed by the coalition and its ISAF partners to Herat Province to help quell factional fighting among

armed gunmen belonging to local militia commanders and bring the Shindand Airport back under control of the Afghan government.

Abidullah, 25, said he joined the ANP because he had always dreamed of becoming a police officer as a child and because he wanted to serve his people and help provide security for the country.

"I'm very happy to be providing security for my country," said Abidullah, who only goes by one name. "Putting myself in harm's way is part of my job. Whenever I get a mission, I am ready. If I have to lose my life, I'm ready to do my job."

Each member of the RAD is equipped with an AK-47. UNAMA has also provided 100 jeeps with communications, 300 police kits and 106 tents.

The Law Enforcement Cell at CFC-A has also pitched in four 25-man tents and 10 portable generators and will deliver 200 complete sets of riot gear by the end of August.

In addition to providing the trainers, Task Force Thunder supports the RAD by providing vehicles, communications and other logistical support to RAD elements in their area of responsibility.

"I'm very proud that the RAD has been formed in a very short time," Amiri said. "This division is going to provide hope and promise for the people of Afghanistan and provide security at a high level."

Self-criticism in Arab media after 'school siege'

Al-Arabiya GM: Muslims are main perpetrators of terrorism activity

By the Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt -- Muslims worldwide are the main perpetrators of terrorism, a humiliating and painful truth that must be acknowledged, a prominent Arab writer and television executive wrote Saturday, as Middle East media and officials expressed horror at the bloody rebel siege of a Russian school.

Unusually forthright self-criticism followed the end of the hostage crisis, along with warnings that such actions inflict more damage to the image of Islam than all its enemies could hope. Arab

leaders and Muslim clerics denounced the school seizure as unjustifiable and expressed their sympathy.

Russian commandos stormed the school Sept. 3 in Beslan, Russia; it had been taken over by rebels demanding independence for Chechnya. Russian officials said Saturday that the death toll was at least 250, with twice as many wounded. Many of the casualties were children.

Images of terrified young survivors being carried from the scene aired repeatedly on Arab television news stations. Pictures of dead and wounded children ran on front pages of Arab newspapers Saturday.



**416th AEG Warrior of the Week
Senior Airman Joseph Booher**

GET ACTIVE AT K2
with the
Top 4 & the Rising 5
JOIN TODAY!

HAS

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The demolition, clean-up and construction teams assembled during their off-duty hours before and after their 12-hour work shifts in order to accomplish their goal. Currently, the volunteers have put more than 80 man-hours of clean-up on HAS 21. The volunteers have used more than 1,000 man-hours on improvements, more than 35 gallons of paint and over a ton of various other materials on the project.

"We have had as many as 10 to 15 people volunteering at a time," said Sergeant Vera. "This really means a lot to us."

The maintenance flight has been operating out of a couple of tents in a gravel lot since their arrival in April of this year. So, when the opportunity arose to move into a home, the squad-

ron jumped at the chance.

"We have really been pushing to make things better," said Tech. Sgt. Gary Piatkowski, 41st EECS instruments and flight controls technician. "It has been tough. For the past six months we have had 40-50 people working out of a double-tent. For the long-term, this is really what we need."

But from the start, the squadron knew it would have its hands full.

"It was bad," said Sergeant Vera. "We literally had to gut it. There was rot from termites and water. We had to tear out and rebuild practically everything."

"It was a big project," added Sergeant Piatkowski. "But it has been worth it. It has improved our comradery and morale. It is a better home and better working environment and anything that betters the unit and betters morale, betters the mission."

As completion of the project heads into the final stretch, these dedicated volunteers are ready to do what it takes to finish their new home.

"If we had the materials and the permission, we would do it ourselves and move in today," said Sergeant Piatkowski. "And, we would be happy to do it."

"The professionals of the 41st EECS maintenance flight have a new home in a hardened aircraft shelter, fittingly named the Scorpion's Den," said Lt. Col. Chuck Schnarr, 41st EECS commander. "The improved facilities will help the maintenance Scorpions continue their stellar performance delivering fully mission capable aircraft for the support of coalition forces in Operation Enduring Freedom."

"The pride that the Scorpions have taken in the project shows through in the transformation of the HAS," the colonel said.

K2 News

Sept. 11 service

There will be a Sept. 11 memorial service at 7 a.m. at the base headquarters Saturday. All base personnel are invited.

Bench Press contest

The MWR will hold its bench press competition at 7 p.m. Sunday at the base gym.

For more information, call Army Sgt. Kenneth Culbertson at 821-3085.

Dental visit

The dentist will visit K2 from Sept. 20-25. Appointments will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, call 821-1203.

Monthly inspection

The heating, ventilation and air conditioning department are performing its monthly inspections on all window units in the seahuts. Residents are asked to clear all items out from in front of window units to assist maintenance.

Inspections begin at 9 a.m. Day-sleepers should call to schedule an alternate inspection time. Twenty-four hours notice is requested.

For more information or to reschedule an inspection, call 821-3145.

Hard Core workout

The K2 Hard Core workout is every Monday and Thursday at 7 p.m. at the basketball courts.

The free course is taught by Army Sgt. Kenneth Culbertson. Sergeant Culbertson is a certified U.S. Army Master Fitness Trainer.

For more information, call 821-3085.

Volunteers needed

The K2 "Rising 5" is looking for volunteers to join their team or to help out with upcoming events.

The next Rising 5 meeting will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the MWR community center.

For more information about the Ris-

ing 5, call Senior Airman Nick Higgs at 821-1160.

Education center

The base education center is holding a variety of new free classes.

The *conducting briefings* class begins Monday. The class will meet from 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Other afternoon classes begin Sept. 20. They are *time management*, *managerial planning*, *problem solving and improving work performance*. Evening classes also begin Sept. 20. They are *counseling techniques* and *stress management*.

All classes are taught through Central Texas College.

Each class is worth one semester hour. Classes can be applied to every Airman's Community College of the Air Force degree.

For more information about classes and times, call Gaby Nelson at 821-1033 or via e-mail at nelsong@k2.afgn.army.mil.

Post Exchange

The K2 post exchange is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

Gift shop

The K2 Uzbekistan gift shop is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

Chapel schedule

The K2 base chapel holds religious services every day. The current chapel services schedule is:

Saturday:

6 p.m. Protestant choir rehearsal

7 p.m. Gospel choir rehearsal

Sunday:

9 a.m. General Protestant

10:30 a.m. Roman Catholic

12:30 p.m. Gospel

3 p.m. Church of Christ

5:30 p.m. Latter-day Saints

7 p.m. General Protestant

Monday:

5:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

7 p.m. Catholic Open Forum

Tuesday:

5:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

7 p.m. Protestant Bible study

Wednesday:

5:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

7 p.m. Gospel Bible study

Thursday:

5:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

7 p.m. Gospel choir rehearsal

Friday:

5:30 p.m. Catholic Mass

7 p.m. Protestant Bible study

For more information on chapel services, call 821-1065.

Kommando comments

To submit ideas or suggestions to the K2 Kommando, contact Senior Airman Matthew Rosine at RosineM@K2.afgn.army.mil.

Reel time movies

The MWR Theater plays movies every day for all K2 personnel.

All movie showings are free and the schedule is updated every Sunday.

The current showtimes are:

Today, Sept. 10

2 a.m. – Red Planet

5 a.m. – The Clearing

8 a.m. – Johnson Family vacation

11 a.m. – Birthday Girl

2 p.m. – Rundown

5 p.m. – Out of Time

8 p.m. – Johnson Family vacation

11 p.m. – Birthday Girl

Saturday, Sept. 11

2 a.m. – Rundown

5 a.m. – Out of Time

8 a.m. – Hellboy

11 a.m. – Identity

2 p.m. – Joe Dirt

5 p.m. – The Haunted Mansion

8 p.m. – Hellboy

11 p.m. – Identity

Sunday, Sept. 5

2 a.m. – Joe Dirt

5 a.m. – The Haunted Mansion

8 a.m. – Butterfly Effect

11 a.m. – Asylum Days

2 p.m. – Animal

5 p.m. – Man on Fire

8 p.m. – Butterfly Effect

11 p.m. – Asylum Days

For the business-week movie schedule or for more information, call Randy Ward.